CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method, comprising:

detecting, at a switch, a presence of a first repeater coupled to the switch at a location; and

automatically configuring the first repeater to enable the first repeater to communicate with a mobile station and the switch without using information resulting from a site survey of the location.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting configuration data from the switch to the first repeater to enable the first repeater to operate and communicate with the switch and the mobile station, in response to the detection of the first repeater.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising:

receiving the configuration data at the first repeater; and

executing the configuration data to configure the first repeater communicating with the switch and the mobile station.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising the switch receiving a signal that indicates completion of the configuration.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining whether the first repeater is more appropriate with respect to the mobile station than a second repeater with which the mobile station had previously communicated.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein if the first repeater is more appropriate, the method further comprises:

disassociating the mobile station from the second repeater; and

re-associating the mobile station with the first repeater.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

detecting decoupling the first repeater from the switch; and

signaling an alarm upon detecting the decoupling of the first repeater from the switch.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising:

locating a second repeater currently coupled to the switch, the second repeater suitable to communicate with the mobile station; and

associating the mobile station with the second repeater.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the re-association is performed transparently to a user of the mobile station.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

drawing power from the switch to power up the first repeater;

performing an initialization within the first repeater; and

transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate the presence of the first repeater.

11. An apparatus, comprising:

means for detecting, at a switch, a presence of a first repeater coupled to the switch at a location; and

means for automatically configuring the first repeater to enable the first repeater to communicate wirelessly with a mobile station and the switch without using information resulting from a site survey of the location.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising means for transmitting configuration data from the switch to the first repeater to enable the first repeater to operate and communicate with the switch and the mobile station, in response to the detection of the first repeater.

13. The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising:

means for receiving the configuration data at the first repeater; and

means for executing the configuration data to configure the first repeater communicating with the switch and the mobile station.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising means for transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate a completion of the configuration.

15. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising means for determining whether the first repeater is more appropriate with respect to the mobile station than a second repeater with which the mobile station had previously communicated.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein if the first repeater is more appropriate, the method further comprises:

means for disassociating the mobile station from the second repeater; and

means for re-associating the mobile station with the first repeater.

17. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

means for detecting decoupling the first repeater from the switch; and

means for signaling an alarm upon detecting the decoupling of the first repeater from the switch.

18. The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising:

means for locating a second repeater currently coupled to the switch, the second repeater suitable to communicate with the mobile station; and

means for associating the mobile station with the second repeater.

19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the re-association is performed transparently to a user of the mobile station.

20. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

means for drawing power from the switch to power up the first repeater;

means for performing an initialization within the first repeater; and

means for transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate the presence of the first repeater.

21. A machine-readable medium having executable code to cause a machine to perform a method, the method comprising:

detecting, at a switch, a presence of a first repeater coupled to the switch at a location; and

automatically configuring the first repeater to enable the first repeater to communicate wirelessly with a mobile station and the switch without using information resulting from a site survey of the location.

22. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises transmitting configuration data from the switch to the first repeater to enable the first repeater to operate and communicate with the switch and the mobile station, in response to the detection of the first repeater.

23. The machine-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the method further comprises:
receiving the configuration data at the first repeater; and
executing the configuration data to configure the first repeater communicating with the switch and the mobile station.

24. The machine-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the method further comprises the switch receiving a signal that indicates completion of the configuration.

25. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises determining whether the first repeater is more appropriate with respect to the mobile station than a second repeater with which the mobile station had previously communicated.

26. The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein if the first repeater is more appropriate, the method further comprises:
disassociating the mobile station from the second repeater; and
re-associating the mobile station with the first repeater.

27. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises:
detecting decoupling the first repeater from the switch; and

signaling an alarm upon detecting the decoupling of the first repeater from the switch.

28. The machine-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the method further comprises:

locating a second repeater currently coupled to the switch, the second repeater suitable to communicate with the mobile station; and

associating the mobile station with the second repeater.

29. The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the re-association is performed transparently to a user of the mobile station.

30. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises:

drawing power from the switch to power up the first repeater;

performing an initialization within the first repeater; and

transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate the presence of the first repeater.

31. A method, comprising:

detecting a repeater plugged into a switch port of a switch;

automatically downloading configuration information from the switch; and

configuring the repeater using the configuration information to enable the repeater to communicate with one or more mobile station without using data resulting from a site survey.

32. The method of claim 31, further comprising:

powering up the repeater using power drawn from the switch; and

performing initialization within the repeater prior to the downloading.

33. The method of claim 32, further comprising transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate a presence of the repeater following a completion of the initialization.

34. The method of claim 31, further comprising transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate a completion of the configuration.

35. An apparatus, comprising:

means for detecting a repeater plugged into a switch port of a switch;

means for automatically downloading configuration information from the switch; and

means for configuring the repeater using the configuration information to enable the repeater to communicate with one or more mobile station without using data resulting from a site survey.

36. The apparatus of claim 35, further comprising:

means for powering up the repeater using power drawn from the switch; and

means for performing initialization within the repeater prior to the downloading.

37. The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising means for transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate a presence of the repeater following a completion of the initialization.

38. The apparatus of claim 35, further comprising means for transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate a completion of the configuration.

39. A machine-readable medium having executable code to cause a machine to perform a method, the method comprising:

detecting a repeater plugged into a switch port of a switch;

automatically downloading configuration information from the switch; and

configuring the repeater using the configuration information to enable the repeater to communicate with one or more mobile station without using data resulting from a site survey.

40. The machine-readable medium of claim 39, wherein the method further comprises:

powering up the repeater using power drawn from the switch; and

performing initialization within the repeater prior to the downloading.

41. The machine-readable medium of claim 40, wherein the method further comprises transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate a presence of the repeater following a completion of the initialization.

42. The machine-readable medium of claim 39, wherein the method further comprises transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate a completion of the configuration.

43. An apparatus, comprising:

a switch capable of coupling with one or more repeaters,

wherein when a repeater is coupled to the switch, the switch automatically detects a presence of the repeater and configures the repeater to enable the repeater to communicate with a mobile station wirelessly without using information resulting from a site survey.

44. An apparatus, comprising:

a repeater capable of coupling to a switch which is coupled to one or more repeaters,

wherein when the repeater is coupled to the switch, the repeater downloads information from the switch for configuring the repeater to enable the repeater to communicate with a mobile station wirelessly without using information resulting from a site survey.